GUIDELINE F.03 – Identification of Fire Department Connections

F.03.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this guideline is to provide information and requirements for the proper identification of Fire Department Connections in buildings with built-in fire protection.

Proper identification of Fire Department Connections (FDC) is essential for successful fire fighting operations in buildings with built-in fire protection. In order to simplify department operations it is important for signs on FDC's to clearly indicate the location of the system being served, the type of system, and the proper pump pressure needed if necessary.

F.03.2 SCOPE

This guideline applies to all new and existing fire protection systems and is based upon the requirements found in the California Fire Code; NFPA 13; NFPA 14 and other applicable standards.

F.03.3 PROCEDURE

I. Construction and lettering specifications for identification signs on FDC's.

- Signs shall be constructed of a durable material, preferably metal.
- Signs shall be a minimum of four inches high by eight inches wide.
- Lettering on the sign shall be at least one inch in height on a clearly contrasting background.
- Signs are to be permanently mounted on the building adjacent to or directly on the FDC and must be readable from the adjacent roadway.
- In addition to other requirements in this specification, all signs must state the address of the building being served.

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II. SPRINKLER SYSTEMS.
Identification signs for automatic sprinkler systems not combined with standpipe systems.

- For systems serving an entire building:

Sprinkler System
1100 Irvine Ave

- For systems serving a portion of a building, state the area served:

Partial Sprinkler System
3rd and 4th Floor
4340 Von Karman Ave

- For systems on a loop or multiple systems in a complex served by a single FDC:

Sprinkler System
4311 Jamboree Rd
All Risers

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III. COMBINATION SYSTEMS.

Identification signs for automatic sprinkler systems combined with standpipes or yard hydrants.

- For systems in which the riser serves both as a standpipe and sprinkler supply, including buildings with fire pumps calculated to serve the sprinkler demand only: (For assistance contact Fire Prevention)

  Sprinkler System
  & Standpipes
  3333 W Coast Hwy

- For systems in which the FDC serves both the sprinkler system and yard hydrants:

  Sprinkler System
  & Yard Hydrants
  445 E Coast Hwy

- For systems in which the riser serves both the standpipe and sprinkler systems and supply is provided by an on-site fire pump calculated to supply both the sprinkler and standpipe demand. (For assistance contact Fire Prevention)

  Sprinkler System &
  Standpipes
  Pump ✸ PSI
  4675 MacArthur Court

✸ To determine the pump pressure stated on the sign:

(1) Determine the operational pressure of the on-site fire pump
(2) Adjust for the difference in elevation between the FDC and the fire pump at .434 psi/ft.
(3) Add 25 psi for system friction loss

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Example:

1. Pressure stated on the test plate on the on-site pump is 180 psi
2. If the pump is below the FDC, subtract .434 pounds per foot of difference
   i.e. 10 ft. x .434 = 4.34 psi (4.5)
3. Add 25 psi for friction loss in the FDC
   i.e. 180 psi – 4.5 psi + 25 psi = 200 psi (pump pressure for sign)

IV. STANDPIPE SYSTEMS.

Identification signs for standpipe systems.

- For FDC which serve risers in all stairways:

Dry Standpipe
All Stairways
4910 Birch Street

- For FDC which serve individual risers or risers in a single stairway:

Dry Standpipe
North Stairway
3000 Park Newport Drive

V. DOCK SYTEMS.

Identification Signs for Dock Systems:

- For FDC's that serve boat docks, the inspecting officer shall determine the appropriate address of the docks. An address range may also be stated on the sign:

Dock System
3400-3446 Via Oporto

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